

Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee
May 16, 2002
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
NWIFC Conference Center
Minutes

Attendees:

Bresler, Helen	DOE
Clark, Jeffrey	Weyerhaeuser
Dieu, Julie	Rayonier
Edson, Scott	Colville Confederated Tribes
Heide, Peter	WFPA
Hunter, Mark	WDFW
Jackson, Terry	WDFW
Martin, Doug	CMER co-chair
McCracken, Jim	Longview Fibre
McNaughton, Geoff	Adaptive Management Program Administrator
Peterson, Pete	Upper Columbia United Tribes
Pleus, Allen	NWIFC
Price, David	WDFW
Pucci, Dawn	Suquamish Tribe
Quinn, Tim	CMER co-chair
Raines, Mary	NWIFC
Rowe, Blake	Longview Fibre
Schuett-Hames, Dave	NWIFC

Budget: McNaughton said that the 3rd contract of federal money is in negotiations at IAC. FFR Policy and DNR Executive Management will decide how to allocate the funding. Moving the hazard zonation project to the CMER portion of the budget is under consideration.

We need to close out the \$22,000 project development fund as well. McNaughton feels that the two proposals forwarded to CMER via e-mail (funding the Hardwood Growth & Yield Project, proposed by Washington Hardwoods Commission, and the approach to Long Term Monitoring for Sediment Production from Forest Roads, proposed by EPA) are not in the spirit of the project development fund. After much discussion, both proposals were denied. The CMER co-chairs will draft letters to Simpson explaining the denial.

Quinn proposed that McNaughton work with interested CMER members to make the budget better understood and available as a working document.

The RMZ Resample is funded at \$200,000, not the full \$800,000. The policy committee, at their May meeting, did not approve the \$600,000 additional for years. CMER will need to discuss whether projects should be approved in the future for full funding at the time to initiation or whether they should be approved year by year.

Work plan: The workplan is progressing. At the April retreat, we agreed to a proposed framework that focuses on grouping studies around the various forest practices rules. A small group will meet and draft the first “road map” which will focus on the Type N-streams rules. This draft will be presented at a CMER

meeting and then SAGs will be asked to fit their studies within this format. This will require cross-Sag development, as many SAGs have studies that are related to the same rules. SAGs are asked to pursue their workplans as far as they can and then be ready to fit them into this proposed framework.

Handbook: A short discussion of the CMER handbook occurred during the CMER retreat in April. McNaughton is leading the drafting effort for the handbook. Domoni Glass, Pete Heide, Allen Pleus, Nancy Sturhan and Heather Rowton are on the drafting committee.

Communication Meeting: A small group meeting was held on Monday, May 13th to discuss the way issues with CMER-Policy communication. The general consensus is that both CMER and Policy need to do a better job of communicating. The Stakeholder's will help facilitate CMER-Policy communication on technical issues. They will also ensure that policy members are briefed on CMER issues and are ready to make decisions at the policy meetings. Another policy subgroup will also be created to meet with CMER co-chairs and Geoff McNaughton before all policy meetings to ensure that all CMER items on the agenda are clearly understood. A written communications strategy is forthcoming.

The first Stakeholder's topic is the RMZ resample project and a meeting will be scheduled.

SAG Requests:

- UPSAG: Julie Dieu is the new co-chair. CMER thanked Mike Liquori for his three years of service in that role.
 - Project Development Fund: CMER should attempt to spend the \$22,000 on equipment or other project development before June 30th of 2002.
 - SAGs are asked to provide a list expenditures for existing contracts to McNaughton within one week.
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SRC Update: During the past year, we have been charged no overhead. We are currently negotiating with the University to keep this charge to a minimum for next year as well.

A Bull trout proposal is currently out for SRC review and the committee is having trouble recruiting people to participate in the review. The TFW -118 report has come back from review with some problems. Raines requested that this be added to the next CMER agenda.

The group had a discussion about SRC/CMER commitments and how we respond to them. Martin suggested that SAGs develop a plan to address comments and that CMER accept/reject those plans.

The CMER retreat summary is postponed until the next meeting

SAG Issues and Concerns Discussion:

- RSAG is working on a work plan and is struggling with hardwood conversion issues.
- BTSAG is on the verge of contracting with for 3 projects over the summer and is recruiting study sites through the WFPA membership.
- SAGE indicated that the nomograph project was put out to bid.
- Dave Schuett-hames encouraged SAGs to utilize Dr. George McFadden at (360-438-1180) for project implementation.
- UPSAG has two RFP's to get started (regional landforms and road maintenance). The NP work group is moving fast on the 2001 data analysis.

The p.m. discussion focused on the development of the CMER workplan and how this will work. A small group met on Friday, May 17th to further refine the workplan format based on Thursday's discussion. Stay tuned for more.

The next CMER meeting is **Wednesday, June 19** at the NWIFC Conference Center.